

Amendments to the Specification

Please insert the following paragraph at page 1, line 1 of the specification:

This application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/165,189, filed on November 12, 1999, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 20 of the specification as follows:

In a preferred embodiment, these constructs comprising the HBEGF gene can be fused as outlined herein to any number of detectable or selectable genes as outlined herein for other constructs, including green fluorescent protein (GFP) and all its derivatives (including those from Aquorea, Renilla and Ptilosarcus; see U.S.S.N. 60/164,592, filed 11/10/99 and its continuation-in-part application, U.S. Serial Number 09/710,058, filed 11/10/00 (~~no serial number received yet~~), both of which are expressly incorporated by reference). For example, CD9 has been classified as a diphtheria receptor accessory protein, and can increase the sensitivity to diphtheria toxin up to 25 fold. CD9 is tightly associated with HBEGF on the cell surface, and it is a 27 kD cell surface protein with four transmembrane domains. It is generally expressed in pre-B cells, vascular smooth muscle, cardiac muscle and the distal tubules of kidney. Thus, CD9 fusions are included within the scope of the invention. Several suitable constructs are shown in the figures.